

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-9. (Canceled).

10. (Currently Amended) A method of producing a sintered oil retaining bearing having a cylindrical bearing body composed of a porous body formed of a sintered metal, said method being characterized in that when a metal powder is to be cylindrically compacted using a forming die and a forming core rod, a relative motion is imparted between the forming core rod and the metal powder after the metal powder has been charged into the forming die, wherein the sintered oil retaining bearing produced in said method has surface openings formed on a bearing surface that are substantially uniform in size, and if an area of the single surface opening is converted into an area of a circle, a diameter of such circle does not exceed .05 mm, wherein the proportion of the surface area occupied by the surface openings to the total bearing surface is 10% or less, and a rotary sizing step.

11. (New) A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

conducting rotary sizing to ensure the proportion of the surface area occupied by the surface openings to the total bearing surface is 10% or less.